

COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

Meets in Charleston.—Welcome by Governor Manning.

Charleston, Dec. 14.—The seventh annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress was called to order in the German Artillery hall yesterday morning by the Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher, senator from Florida, and president of the congress. The session lasted for approximately three hours and was attended by several hundred persons, including the cadet corps of the Citadel and of the Porter Military academy. The principal address was delivered by the Hon. William G. McAdoo, secretary of the treasury.

The following message from the president was read:

"The white house, Washington, December 13, 1915.

"The Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher, president, the Southern Commercial congress, Charleston, S. C.: Pray extend my greetings to the members of the congress, my very deep and sincere interest in their deliberations and my hope that out of those deliberations will come fertile counsel for the benefit of the nation.

"WOODROW WILSON."

Other speakers were the Hon. Richard I. Manning, governor of South Carolina; Mr. Thos. S. Southgate, first vice president, Southern Commercial congress; the Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher, of Florida; Col. John Temple Graves, editor of the New York American; Mayor John P. Grace, and the Hon. John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American union. The invocation was asked by the Rt. Rev. William A. Guerry, D. D., bishop of the diocese of South Carolina.

The hall was elaborately decorated with numerous flags, bunting and ferns. The appearance was distinctly a patriotic one. A number of distinguished visitors were in the audience.

The entrance of the speakers was marked by the playing of patriotic selections by Metz's Military band. Immediately after the convention had been called to order by Senator Fletcher the invocation was asked by Bishop Guerry.

A chorus of more than a hundred voices, under the direction of Miss Isabelle Hyams, sang "The Song of Victory." The accompaniment was played by Metz's band. This was one of the features of the session and the splendid performance of the chorus was greeted with prolonged applause. The singers were on the stage in the rear of the hall.

Secretary McAdoo, the last speaker, was of the impression that he was to appear in the afternoon and was a little late in arriving. He and Mrs. McAdoo, who accompanied him, received a cordial welcome when they entered the hall.

Mr. R. G. Rhett, president of the Charleston Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Clarence J. Owens, managing director of the Southern Commercial congress, did not speak yesterday. Mr. Rhett had waited for Secretary McAdoo. Dr. Owens will probably deliver his address on "The Southern Commercial Congress—a Militant Force," at one of the other sessions. Secretary and Mrs. McAdoo lunched with Mr. and Mrs. Rhett and were entertained by them. The secretary and his wife returned to Washington last night.

It was stressed by Senator Fletcher and Dr. Owens that all sessions of the congress are open to the public. The addresses are of a practical nature and much good, it is believed, will be derived from them.

Charleston's welcome was extended to the delegates and members of the congress and to the visitors by Mayor Grace. He spoke of the gathering as being representative of the New South and welcomed all to the "Capital of the Old South and the Capital of the New South."

Governor Manning next assured the visitors of the congress of South Carolina's welcome.

SPEAKS OF FORD'S PARTY.

Rosebery Says It is Englishmen's Duty to See They Enjoy Trip.

Edinburgh, Dec. 11.—"At this moment there is coming over a vessel fraught with peace," said the Earl of Rosebery in a speech here tonight.

"It is propelled apparently by a gentleman named Ford, who makes, I think, perambulators. He is coming over to pour oil on troubled waters at the inspiration of a Dr. Aked, of whom we know something here, and who by voice more potent than that of any to call the soldiers from the trenches mortal heard in this world is going and bid the waves be still.

The expedition will fail, but that the eighty passengers receiving free passages may enjoy themselves and do no mischief is our earnest solicitation."

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly

The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c

TRIMMING THE TREE



THE late Shopper is a prominent member of the Genus Procrastinatus.

He has his own peculiar way of celebrating Christmas. Often he celebrates it in bed, with a water bag on his chest and the grip of an anxious physician around his wrist. His eyes are closed and his poor, warped brain is worn in a sling.

On the floor beside his bed, torn to shreds and bitten in numerous places, lies his Christmas list. The day before Christmas he sallied forth with this list in his hand and a look of desperate determination on his features.

The Late Shopper is a cheerful giver, withal. He loves giving for its own sake, but he loves it better for the sake of putting it off. Decidedly he is no believer in the "Do-it-now" movement. Nor is he selfish. It is just a habit. It is to be feared that if he were dying of thirst he would put off giving himself a drink.

Philanthropists should find rest sanitariums for Late Christmas Shoppers

—the kind that are incurable. Here they could retire and nurse their wounds, incurred in the last toy counter rush.

How fortunate it is that Santa Claus was not born a late shopper. He is always on the job, and gets ready for the holiday season months ahead, we are reliably informed by the nursery books. However, Santa Claus is in constant danger of losing his reputation. There are hundreds of fond Fathers who pose as Santa Claus to their little broods, Papas who sally forth to collect a bagful of toys just when the stores are closing on Christmas eve, and the holly garlands are being taken down, and the manager of the dress goods department is getting ready to announce, "Spring and Summer Styles."

The Late Shoppers we have always with us. As eleventh-hour athletes, they take all the running, jumping and line-plunging honors. But often the Late Shopper has one good mark to his credit. He puts off giving at all times, and therefore puts off giving a piece of his mind to his wife.

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...SEE...

H. M. GRAHAM, Secretary

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